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AUG 21 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR POLICY COORDINATION
SUBJECT: ~~Resistance Situation in Albania~~ *615-07*

1. From one of our missions in Albania which is in close touch with the resistance movement we have received the information set forth in the following paragraphs.

2. According to this mission many members of the Albanian resistance movement feel that they can no longer endure the suffering to which they have been subjected and they therefore plan to flee to Yugoslavia at the first opportunity. They would prefer to go to Greece were it not for the great distance from Northern Albania to the Greek border. Despite efforts made to encourage them to remain in Albania, they are clearly unwilling to spend another winter in the mountains, since life there is now so difficult that it drives men mad.

3. The leader of this mission has asked to be advised whether the Yugoslav political activities in Albania (previously reported to you) are known to us and whether they represent an Allied effort. The question was also raised as to whether or not anti-Communist refugees from Albania would be received as allies upon entering Yugoslavia. In connection with Yugoslav support of the Allies, it was asked what was Yugoslav policy regarding Korea.

4. The message transmitting the above informed us that the Tropoja area is the center of Yugoslav and Albanian espionage, with Yugoslav and Albanian agents constantly crossing the border in this region. The agents of the Yugoslavs were described as all having been members of the Albanian resistance movement in the past.

5. On or about 10 August 1950 our mission sent a contact to investigate an invitation to meet an unidentified person who wished to deliver Yugoslav arms and ammunition to the mission.

6. Among the population of Northern Albania there is a growing conviction that the Yugoslavs are planning an armed movement into Albania in order to maintain the morale of those in the mountains. "Quantities of arms" are reportedly being

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distributed daily by the Yugoslavs and being accepted even by loyal Albanian Nationalists, many of whom had also been offered money but had refused pending advice from our mission. The leader of the mission feared that such generosity by the Yugoslavs might have the effect of winning over to them many persons who had suffered for a long time on our side.

7. In conclusion the mission leader stated that his persuasiveness would not be sufficient and he was therefore in need of urgent instructions as to the course of action he should follow.

[Assistant Director
Special Operations]

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